



Left: The Acton Building Association was formed because the town was growing so rapidly that new homes were desperately needed. The syndicate houses, located on Bower Ave., were built at a cost of about \$1,000 each in 1874. W. H. Storey was the president of the association and a contractor from Toronto was the builder. The homes are still private residences today.

Right: One of Georgetown's early entrepreneurs, John R. Barber, who operated the Barber Paper Mill, had a large home constructed during the 1880's at 139 Main Street. The residence was named Berwick Hall, after the birthplace of Barber's mother, who was born in Berwick-on-Tweed in England. Barber lived there until his death in 1917. His eldest son Frank took over the estate but moved out a year later and for years the building sat idle. In 1945 Bill Bradley, the founder of the Dominion Seed House bought the house and converted the residence into apartments.

File photos



# Historic homes and businesses have withstood the ravages of time

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by the Adams brothers and many of the town's streets are named after their family members. Among the many old buildings in town is the olde Hide House at 49 Eastern Ave. which was built by the Beardmore Tannery in 1899. The Shoemaker Funeral Home at 55 Mill St. E. was built in 1879 by W. H. Storey of Storey Glove Factory and was named Sunderland Villa. After the First World War, the building became a home for veterans, was later run as a hotel and was vacant during the Depression until it was turned into a funeral home.

The Acton Town Hall at 19 Willow St. N. was built in 1882 as a town hall and police station and has just recently undergone a major renovation.

In 1897 Henry Moore, owner of *The Acton Free Press*, built Moorecroft at 98 Church St. E.

Historic buildings in Georgetown include the Baptist Church at 14 Main St. S. which was built in 1869 by the Baptist congregation. It was last used as a church in 1984.


The former Goodlets store (now the Shepherd's Crook pub) at 86 Main St. S. was built in 1879 as a hardware store. In its long history it has only been owned and operated by two families.

Berwick Hall at 139 Main St. S. was designed by Toronto architect Edward J. Lennox as the home of John Roaf Barber, owner of the Georgetown Paper Mills and Barber and Ellis, and now houses several apartments.

The home of John Stewart, one of Georgetown's earliest settlers and a town warden in 1821 was designated a heritage property in 1987. The house, named Craiglea, is located on Ninth Line just north of 5 Sideroad. The gracious clapboard house has Doric columns framing the doorway and bubble-glazed original multi-pane windows. Two owners later, around the turn of the century, the farm was named Craiglea by Isabella Stark, who converted the home to a guest house. The name Craiglea was given to the house by Stark in memory of her mother's family, the Craigs.

As you can see Halton Hills has a rich and colorful history and nowhere is this more evident than in the many historic buildings that have withstood the ravages of time and weather.

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